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IDEA - 0026

Copy No. 5

5 November 1960

**MEMORANDUM FOR:** Acting Chief, Development Projects Division

**SUBJECT :** IDEALIST Policy Letters Nos. 6 and 12

**REFERENCE :** Memorandum for DD/P, dated 2 November 1960,  
from AC/DPD, subject: "Transmittal of  
IDEALIST Policy Letters Nos. 6 and 12

1. I am returning herewith the referenced documents and have signed your transmittal memorandum to indicate my approval of them. Before these are circulated to the Detachments, however, I believe you should give consideration to the circumstances under which these policies will apply and accompanying instructions should cover this point.

2. What I have in mind is that these are designed primarily for the guidance of pilots engaged in overflights of the Communist Bloc. It is not automatically clear that they apply to peripheral areas such as the Middle East or [REDACTED] and we have already decided that this guidance does not apply to overflights of Cuba. Both General Cabell and the DCI are anxious that we tailor our guidance to these various specific situations as required.

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3. My own suggestion would be to make clear that Letter No. 6 as well as No. 12 apply only to overflights of the Communist Bloc and that we should prepare supplementary and probably quite different instructions for other areas over which overflights may be made. I would suggest as the most urgent case that we issue standing instructions in writing for the area of the Caribbean Islands including roughly territories within reach of a flight plan from Del Rio to Ramey. I believe we are agreed that in this entire area pilots should be briefed to stick to a cover story which is well backstopped and convincing. Perhaps next in order of urgency we might wish to consider instructions for Central America and northern Latin

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America since I can imagine a possible requirement for reconnaissance in these regions and one for [REDACTED] since we may have a requirement in the near future for one or more [REDACTED] overflights. I would think it worthwhile after these cases are taken care of, to develop appropriate instructions for the Middle East, northern Africa and Europe.

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4. It may well be that standing instructions contained in policy letters will indicate merely that the pilot should be briefed under all circumstances to stick to his cover story, and that an appropriate cover story will be supplied prior to each mission. Although standing instructions along this line could be brief and perhaps of only limited value in themselves, they would serve to call the attention of Detachment Commanders and Operations Officers to the fact that treatment will be tailored to the circumstances of specific missions.

5. May I assume that you will proceed along these lines or, if you wish to handle the matter differently, that you will let me have your comments.

Attachments:  
Reference w/Ltr.

**RICHARD M. BISSELL, JR.**  
Deputy Director  
(Plans)

#1-Addressee  
#2-D/DCI (Then DPD/OPS/INTEL for  
#3-DPD/COPS retention)  
#4-DPD/Cover  
#5-DD/P

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